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RAMSBOTTOM
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1533/1

Annual Reports
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR,
1936.

RAMSBOTTOM :
H. Deaden, Printer, Square Street.

*Tab 2
1/1/37
9/6/37*



WITH THE COMPLIMENTS
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR

Council Offices,
Ramsbottom.

RAMSBOTTOM
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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OF THE
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Ramsbottom Urban District Council.



CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR J. HAMER, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR A. WORSICK.

COUNCILLORS *J. COLLIER.

G. FOGG, J.P.

**A. GASKELL.

W. HOLDEN.

*G. HOLT.

C. LAMB.

*REV. D. LEWTAS, B.A.,
(retired Sept., 1936).

J. LONGWORTH.

*R. SUTHERS.

*H. TAYLOR.

*J. TAYLOR, J.P.


R. T. TURNBULL, J.P.

R. WHITTAKER.

*REV. L. A. WILSON.
(from Oct., 1936).

**Chairman of the Public Health Committee.

*Members of the Public Health Committee.



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LIST OF ACTS AND SECTIONS THEREOF
ADOPTED BY THE
RAMSBOTTOM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

- | | | |
|------|---|------------------|
| I. | Infectious diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890. | 1st April, 1896. |
| II. | Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890. | 1st May, 1896. |
| III. | Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act,
1907. | |
| | Part II. (Sections 15—33) | 21st Oct., 1909 |
| | Part III. (Sections 34, 35, 36, 38, 43,
44, 45, 46, 47, 49, 50 and 51) | do. |
| | (Sections 39, 40, 41 and 42) | 3rd June, 1935. |
| | Part IV. (Sections 52—68) | 21st Oct., 1909 |
| | Part V. (Sections 69—75) | do. |
| | Part VI. (Sections 76 and 77) | do. |
| | Part VII. (Sections 79, 80, 81 and 86) | 1st May, 1910 |
| | Part VIII. (Sections 87—90) | do. |
| | Part IX. | do. |
| | Part X. (Sections 92, 93 and 95) | 21st Oct., 1909 |
| IV. | Public Health Act, 1925 : | |
| | Part II, III, IV and V. | 1st March, 1927 |
| V. | Museum and Gymnasium Act, 1891 | 1st Nov., 1930 |
| VI. | Baths and Wash-houses Act, 1846 | 29th Jan., 1931 |
| VII. | Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts,
1899—1923 | 13th Oct., 1932. |

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL BYE-LAWS
ARE NOW IN FORCE.

- | | | |
|-------|---|------------------|
| I. | New Streets and Buildings | 18th Mar., 1924 |
| II. | Erection of Advertising Hoardings and
Exhibition of Advertisements | 24th Oct., 1930 |
| III. | Emission of Smoke | 4th May, 1931 |
| IV. | Pleasure Grounds | 6th Aug., 1931 |
| V. | Slaughter-houses | 18th Sept., 1935 |
| VI. | Common Lodging Houses | 18th Sept., 1935 |
| VII. | Offensive Trades | 5th Dec., 1935 |
| VIII. | Nuisances | 5th Dec., 1935 |



To the Ramsbottom Urban District Council:

The Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

1936.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

The Annual Report of public health affairs concerning the Urban District which I now take pleasure in presenting to you is my 25th in a continuous series. My first was for the year 1912, and in each succeeding report since then it has been my endeavour to place before you as complete a record of information appertaining to the public health of Ramsbottom and District as it was possible for one to do. Since 1912 and particularly since the war period with its revealing knowledge of so much physical deterioration amongst recruits the pursuit of national wellbeing has partaken of the nature of a crusade and both Government and people have enlisted in the chase. A new Ministry of Health has come into being, under the spate of whose Orders, circulars, and memoranda we have well nigh been submerged, while at the same time realising the resolute intentions of the Ministry to have done with a C3 nation. Besides the new Ministry we have the National Insurance Act, School Medical Officers, Child Welfare Centres, the Housing and Slum Clearance Acts, and the insistent attention to the care of expectant, parturient and nursing mothers in a great endeavour to preserve the lives of infants and to reduce the maternal death-rate, all

activities in full operation at the present time. Some of these activities have added considerably to the work of your Public Health Officers so much so indeed that I fear ere long you will require additional staff to cope with it.

As regards the report itself there are a few items to notice in the varied mixture. The death-rate remains above the birth-rate as it has done for some years past, and both birth and death rates are higher than for the preceding 5 years. Unhappy features are the maternal and infant death-rates, the former is high as compared with that of the country as a whole, being 5.07 to 3.65 per 1000 live and still-births; the latter which from year to year fluctuates considerably is on this occasion 12 above the mean for the preceding 5 years and is 35 above that for 1935. 15 babies died in 1936 and 8 only in 1935. The tuberculosis death-rate is low as compared with 1935 and the preceding 5 years. It is gratifying also to learn that only one death out of 46 notified cases of diphtheria is recorded. This is just over 2 per cent and apart from the generally mild nature of the disease I think suggests that the treatment for the victims of this treacherous affection was both prompt and effective. Of the 46 cases notified 44 were removed to Hospital where the death occurred.

The number of tables which follow give in statistical detail all the items of interest concerning the Public Health of the Urban Area.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	9,564
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	15,530
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population 1936					15,190
Number of Inhabited Houses—Census 1931	...			...	4,390
Number of Inhabited Houses—end of 1936, according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	4,901
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£70,972
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...		...	...	£294

The area is an industrial one and a large proportion of female labour is employed. The chief industries are Cotton and Woollen Spinning and Weaving, Bleaching, Dyeing and Calico Printing, Engineering, Paper Making, Soap Making, Chemical Works, Quarrying of Millstone Grit Stone, and Farming. In consequence of the varied industries, Ramsbottom has enjoyed a lower percentage of unemployment than many other towns in Lancashire and has hardly exceeded 9 per cent at any time. Illness due to industry is confined to Bronchial troubles, due to dust and gases, and to Skin affections as a result of some of the processes in bleaching and dyeing.

In addition to the prevalence of diphtheria mentioned later an epidemic of comparatively mild whooping Cough occurred during the months of July, August and September.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	178	93	85
	Illegitimate	7	3	4
	Total	185	96	89
Still Births	12	7	5	
Deaths	206	102	104	

Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 12.1

Rate per 1000, total (live and still) births 60.

*Death-rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 13.5

*1936 adjusted death rate (comparability factor, 1.02) = 13.7 per 1000

Deaths from puerperal causes—

	Deaths	Death-rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal sepsis	1	
Other puerperal causes	0	
Total	1	5.07.

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	81
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	78
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	142
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	31
„ „ Measles (all ages)	nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	nil
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	1

	Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.				Maternal Mortality Rate.		Rate of Deaths under One Year per 1000 Live Births
	Live Birth-rate.	Crude Death rate.	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births.	Per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Population, 15,190							
Mean of 5 years, 1931—1935	11.3	12.9	0.63	1.60	4.73	4.47	69
Year 1935	11.3	12.6	0.65	1.70	5.78	5.61	46
Year 1936	12.1	13.5	0.46	2.04	5.40	5.07	81
Increase or decrease in 1936 on 5 years' average, 1931--35	+0.8	+0.6	—0.17	+0.44	+0.67	—0.60	+12
Previous Year	+0.8	+0.9	—0.19	+0.34	—0.38	—0.54	+35

AGE PERIODS OF DEATHS.

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year ...	11	4	15
Between 1 and 5 years	2	2	4
„ 5 and 15 „	3	1	4
„ 15 and 25 „	1	1	2
„ 25 and 45 „	9	11	20
„ 45 and 65 „	41	27	68
Over 65 years ...	35	58	93
	102	104	206

TOTAL DEATHS COMPARED WITH THOSE
FOR 1935.

CAUSES.	1936	1935.
All Causes	206	193
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	0	0
Measles	0	0
Scarlet Fever	1	0
Whooping Cough	0	0
Diphtheria	1	0
Influenza	0	2
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	2
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0	0
Respiratory Tuberculosis ..	7	10
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	2
Syphilis	0	0
G. P. I., Tabes, &c....	0	0
Cancer	31	26
Diabetes	5	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	15	12
Heart Disease	38	37
Aneurysm	2	2
Other Circulatory Diseases	21	20
Bronchitis	8	15
Pneumonia (all forms)	12	8
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2
Peptic Ulcer	1	3
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	1	0
Appendicitis	0	2

Cirrhosis of Liver ...	...	...	...	0	0
Other Liver Diseases	...	...	...	4	1
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	5	7
Nephritis ...	...	...	...	6	10
Puerperal Sepsis ...	...	...	...	1	1
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	0	0
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc.	...	...	...	11	7
Senility ...	...	...	...	1	1
Suicide ...	...	...	...	3	1
Other Violent Deaths	...	...	...	3	3
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	23	15
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	0	0
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	0	0
Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	0	0
Ill defined causes	...	...	...	2	1
Diarrhoea (over 2 years)	...	...	...	0	0

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF
MORTALITY, MATERNAL DEATH-RATES AND
CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS
DISEASES IN THE YEAR, 1936.

ENGLAND AND WALES, LONDON, 122 GREAT TOWNS,
AND 143 SMALLER TOWNS.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England & Wales.	122 County Boro's & Great Towns includ- ing London.	143 Smaller Towns (resident populat'ns 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Adminis- trative County.	Ramsbottom
Rates per 1,000 Population.					
Births :—					
Live	14.8	14.9	15.0	13.6	12.1
Still	0.61	0.67	0.64	0.53	0.78
Deaths :—					
All Causes	12.1	12.3	11.5	12.5	13.5
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers }	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00

		England & Wales.	122 County Boro's & Great Towns including London.	143 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Administrative County.	Ramsbottom
Small-pox	...	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	0.07	0.09	0.04	0.14	—
Scarlet Fever	...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.065
Whooping Cough	...	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.06	—
Diphtheria	...	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.065
Influenza	...	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.14	—
Violence	...	0.52	0.45	0.39	0.52	0.39
Notifications:—						
Small-pox	...	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	2.53	2.18	2.48	2.57	2.30
Diphtheria	...	1.39	1.31	1.26	1.69	3.02
Enteric Fever	...	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.06	—
Erysipelas	...	0.40	0.38	0.35	0.44	0.33
Pneumonia	...	1.11	1.10	0.96	0.99	2.56
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.						
Deaths under 1 yr. of age		59	63	55	66	81
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	}	5.9	8.2	3.4	14.4	5.4
Maternal Mortality:—						
Puerperal Sepsis	...	1.40	Not available			5.40
Others	...	2.41				—
Total	...	3.81				5.40
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)						
Maternal Mortality:—						
Puerperal Sepsis	...	1.34	Not available			5.07
Others	...	2.31				—
Total	...	3.65				5.07
Notifications:—						
Puerperal Fever	...	3.27	3.46	2.80	3.03	5.07
Puerperal pyrexia	...	9.64	9.52	7.57	11.15	5.07

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year, 1936.

Disease	Total Cases Notified.																	Total Deaths	Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital
	Total cases, all ages ...	YEARS																		
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65							
Diphtheria	... 46 ... 0	1	2	4	2	19	12	1	4	0	1	0	...	1	...	44	...	1	...	
Erysipelas	... 5 ... 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	...	0	...	2	...	0	...	
Scarlet Fever	... 34 ... 0	1	2	5	3	12	6	3	1	1	0	0	...	1	...	29	...	0	...	
Pneumonia	... 37 ... 1	2	3	0	0	2	2	3	5	4	11	4	...	12	...	0	...	0	...	
Puerperal Pyrexia	... 1 ... 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	...	1	...	0	...	0	...	
Puerperal Fever	... 1 ... 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	...	0	...	1	...	0	...	
Acute Poliomyelitis	... 2 ... 0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	...	0	...	2	...	0	...	
Dysentery	... 1 ... 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	
Totals	... 127	1	5	7	9	5	33	20	8	15	5	14	5	...	15	...	78	...	1	...

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—MONTHLY INCIDENCE.

1936.

Disease	Total	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Diphtheria	... 46	1		2	1	3		6	2	6	7	12	6
Erysipelas	... 5	...		1	1			1			1		1
Scarlet Fever	... 34	5	3	1	2	3	7	3	1	2	3	2	2
Pneumonia	... 37	9	2	4	5	1	3	3		5	1	2	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	... 1	...											1
Puerperal Fever	... 1	...							1				
Acute Poliomyelitis	... 2	...						2					
Dysentery	... 1	...					1						
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	...				3		1					
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	... 5	1	2		1					1			
Total	... 136	16	7	8	10	10	11	16	4	14	12	16	12

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1936.

YEARS :	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	—	1	—	...	—	1	—
5—10 ...	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—
10—15 ...	—	—	1	1	...	—	—	1
15—20 ...	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—
20—25 ...	—	—	1	—	...	—	—	—
25—35 ...	1	—	—	—	...	2	—	1
35—45 ...	2	—	—	1	...	—	—	1
45—55 ...	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—
55—65 ...	1	—	—	—	...	—	1	—
Over 65 ...	—	—	—	—	...	2	1	—
Total...	4	0	3	2	...	4	3	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Excluding Tuberculosis there were 127 notifications of Infectious Diseases. This number is a considerable increase upon the number for the preceding year, and is due to Diphtheria which to some extent was prevalent during July to December, and responsible for 46 notifications. The majority of the cases were confined to the children attending two schools and there also was evidence of return cases of infection i.e., further cases occurring in the same house following a previous case on its return from hospital. The disease was not of a malignant type and one death occurred which is equal to a percentage of deaths to cases of just over 2. The subjoined table gives a comparison of the number of notifications of infectious diseases for last year and those for the preceding five years. It will be observed that our last case of Small-pox occurred in 1932. Chicken-pox ceased to be notifiable after 1931.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATIONS FOR
THE LAST SIX YEARS.

	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931
Small-pox	... 0	0	0	0	2	0
Scarlet Fever	... 34	38	12	39	34	9
Diphtheria	... 46	7	7	13	4	18
Erysipelas	... 5	6	4	6	6	9
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	1	1	3	3	2
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	... 2	3	0	3	0	0
Chicken-pox	... 0	0	0	0	0	86
Pneumonia (all forms)	... 37	38	27	7	31	31
Puerperal Fever	... 1	0	1	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	... 1	2	2	3	0	0
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	4	6	15	16	20	8
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	5	5	6	10	4	10

Diphtheria Antitoxin is supplied from the Public Health Office and the number of units supplied during 1936 was 76,000. The reason for such a low number of units on request for so many cases is that facilities for removal are so prompt and satisfactory that a case often can be transferred to Hospital within an hour by notification over the telephone, the official notification following later.

As regards the schick test vaccine for diphtheria and the Dick test vaccine for scarlet fever although no request has yet been made for a supply, I would just like to mention that you have resolved to be responsible for the supply of these vaccines on the request of local practitioners.

Pathological and bacteriological specimens are submitted for analysis to the Director of the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester, and the nature and number of such

specimens submitted during 1936 were:— Sputum 14; Throat Swabs 63. In addition to these many throat swabs in search of carriers among school children were taken by the School Medical Officials for the cost of which you were not responsible.

DISINFECTION.

Houses are disinfected on removal of cases to Hospital, and on recovery when treated at home. This procedure applies also in Tuberculosis but not in Measles. The method is by formalin spray or candles which when burning emit fumes of formaldehyde gas, and when rooms are sealed as nearly as possible a high concentration of this potent disinfectant is obtainable within them.

The Steam Disinfectant, situated at the depot in Stubbins Lane is available for the disinfection of bedding and clothing when required.

Under the slum clearance scheme a number of houses which were condemned to demolition came under suspicion of bug infestation, and before the tenants were removed to a new housing site their furniture and household contents were disinfested under contract with hydrocyanic acid gas. Their bedding also was submitted to disinfestation by steam and this was carried out at the depot in Stubbins Lane.

The number of houses disinfected during the year amounted to 78, and the number of separate articles (by steam) to 441.

Rat week is observed annually, when implacable war is waged against these harmful rodents.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. For Small-pox: Ainsworth Hospital, 28 beds; for other infectious diseases: The Florence Night-

ingale Hospital at Bury, 96 beds; for Tuberculosis (Respiratory) The Aitken Sanatorium, 80 beds. These Institutions are under the control of the Bury and District Joint Hospital Board on which the Urban District is represented by two members.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. A local Medical Services Fund (maintained by a penny a week contribution) provides facilities for the treatment of contributors and their dependents at the Hospitals of Ramsbottom, Bury and Manchester.

The Ramsbottom Cottage Hospital hitherto has provided 9 beds and 2 cots for local necessities, but at present in consequence of the munificence of Lt. Col. A. T. and Mrs. Porritt, of Grange-over-Sands, and late of Ramsbottom, the Hospital is undergoing extensive alterations with the addition of a Children's Ward to hold six beds, a new operating theatre, as well as the necessary accommodation for an increase of staff. Lt. Col. A. T. and Mrs. Porritt have generously offered to defray the entire expenses of these alterations—a very generous offer indeed—and one that will add greatly to the usefulness of this Hospital, especially as regards children.

By kind permission of the Management Committee, I am enabled to give the following items illustrating the amount of work accomplished during 1936.

Number of Patients admitted to Hospital :	Surgical	157
	Accidents	10
	Medical	17
	Total	184

There were 7 deaths.

DETAILS OF THE WORK;—

Number of Patients X-rayed	... ..	151
„ „ for Pathological investigation		61
Number of beds occupied (average per day)	...	7.4

Number of operations performed	114
Number of Out-Patients treated at the Hospital...	925
Number of visits made by Out-Patients	3481
Number of cases attended by District Nurses ...	162
Number of visits made by District Nurses ...	2636

School children from the Elementary Schools in the district are referred by the County Educational Authority to this Hospital for treatment of diseased and enlarged tonsils and adenoids.

DISTRICT NURSES.

Three District Nurses are employed—two of these (one part time) by the Ramsbottom Hospital and District Nursing Association, and the third one who also practises midwifery by a voluntary agency at Summerseat. Their services are available for Pneumonia, complicated cases of measles and whooping cough but not for infectious diseases generally. The Local Authority is not responsible for any district nursing arrangements.

The School Clinic which is under control of the County Education Authority's Medical Officers and Nurses is situated in Bridge Street, over Martins Bank Ltd.

The Tuberculosis Dispensary at 41, Darbyshire Street, Radcliffe, is directed by the County Council's Tuberculosis Medical Officers and the times of session for consultation, etc., are every Wednesday at 2-30 p.m., and every third Wednesday of the month at 6-30 p.m. Artificial light treatment is available but for radiological examinations patients are referred to the Chief Dispensary at Ashton-under-Lyne, which is the centre for the County Area No. 3, and embraces the Urban District.

The Venereal Diseases Dispensary also under County management, is situated in the Wylde, Bury. The times of session are for males, Tuesday and Thursday 8-30 to 9-30 p.m., Friday 6-30 to 8-30 p.m., Saturday 10-0 a.m., to 1 p.m.; for females Tuesday at 6-30 to 8-30 p.m., Thursday 2-0 to 5-0 p.m., Friday 8-30 to 9-30 p.m.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For Infectious Diseases—the Joint Hospital Board's Motor ambulances. For non-infectious cases, the Urban District Council's motor ambulance.

MATERNITY.

There is one maternity home in North Ward and no application for any further registration was made during the year.

Three qualified and registered midwives are in practice in the district—a sufficiency for all requirements.

Maternity Wards exist at the Bury Infirmary where a consulting gynaecologist attends, and at the Hospital at Jericho. To both of these institutions a large percentage of our expectant mothers resort for confinement.

Ante-natal supervision is part of the work of these lying-in homes and applicants have to apply early in order to secure a bed for their time of need, so great is its popularity. 57 live births and 4 still-births were transferred from lying-in homes outside the Urban area during the year.

Cases of puerperal sepsis are taken to the Florence Nightingale Fever Hospital at Bury.

In furtherance of the Minister of Health's desire for a reduction of the National Maternal Death Rate, the Local Authority has with the consent of the Minister adopted the following resolution:— The Council are prepared to grant financial assistance towards the cost of Consultants' fees in approved cases when the services of such consultants are required by doctors attending difficult or complicated cases of confinement. They will also accept financial responsibility for similar cases needing institutional treatment sent by them to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

There is no institutional provision within the district for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children.

Miss Snell is responsible for carrying out the provisions of Part I. of the Children's Act, 1908. This Act which is concerned with "Infant Life Protection" places the responsibility for discharging its conditions upon the Local Authority, and enjoins upon them the necessity of appointing an officer for fulfilment of its provisions. One of the principal provisions of the Act is that in the case of children nursed out for hire the Local Authority must be satisfied with the conditions under which the child has to live.

In accordance with the Local Scheme for the supply of milk free of cost to necessitous, expectant and nursing mothers and children, 12,343½ pints of fresh milk, 8 tins of Nestle's Milk, and 4 eight ounce bottles of cod liver oil were issued, and 566 pints of fresh milk were sold at half-price.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

The Centre in Stubbins Lane is directed by Miss Snell. She is ably assisted in the work by a committee of ladies who with her manage the Centre in a praiseworthy manner. Tea and biscuits are provided and several in turn undertake the secretarial duties incidental to the efficient working of the Centre. The Local Authority is greatly indebted to these ladies for the time and service they give and for their abiding interest in this branch of Public Health activity. The average attendance per session for the year was 30, for the preceding year it was 37. The time of session is Tuesday at 2-0 p.m. Advice only is given, and babies in need of medical or surgical treatment are referred to the parents' family doctor.

The Summerseat Centre to which you make a contribution of 50 % of the year's expenses up to a maximum of £9 is carried on by a private agency who employ their own doctor and nurse to manage it ; Miss Snell visits monthly. The sessions are held fortnightly—every alternate Wednesday at 2-30 p.m. The average sessional attendance for 1936 was 11, for 1935 it was 11 also.

Health Visitor's Statement, 1936.

Under the Notification of Births (Extension) Act, 1915, 131 live births and 6 still births were notified, of these 71 were males and 66 females. 132 were notified by midwives and 5 by doctors. In addition 57 live births and 4 still births (males 29, females 32) were transferred from other districts, *i.e.* births taking place outside the district to mothers belonging to the district. 33 of these occurred within the maternity home of Bury Infirmary, 15 in the maternity Department of the Hospital at Jericho, Bury, 4 in the Moorlands Hospital, Rawtenstall, 4 in St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester and 5 in private nursing homes.

Total number of live births 188. still births 10.

WARD DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED BIRTHS.

		Males	Females	Total
Central Ward	...	21	14	35
North Ward	...	25	29	54
South Ward	...	6	3	9
East Ward	...	6	7	13
West Ward	...	11	11	22
Walmersley-cum-Shuttleworth Ward	...	2	2	4
		<hr/> 71	<hr/> 66	<hr/> 137

SUMMARY OF VISITS.

Primary Birth Enquiries	...	...	...	...	172
Revisits to Infants under one year	...	...	...	...	868
Visits to Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	47
Visits to Children between 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	...	873
Visits re Infants Deaths	...	...	...	...	13
Visits re Still-births	...	...	...	...	10
Visits re Milk Applications	...	...	...	...	129
Visits to Cases of Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	36
Visits re the Children's Act	...	...	...	...	10
					<hr/> 2158

METHODS OF FEEDING AND ASSOCIATED
MORTALITY OF INFANTS.

Breast Fed only	...	118	Mortality	...	0
Breast Fed partially	...	9	„	...	2
Artificially Fed	...	40	„	...	7
Not Determined	...	5	„	...	5
		<hr/> 172			<hr/> 14

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	Under 3 months	Between 3 and 6 months.
Marasmus
Congenital Heart Disease
Bronchial Pneumonia
Atelectasis
Prematurity
Eczema (generalized)
Malnutrition & Prematurity
Gastro-enteritis
		<hr/> 6	<hr/> 4
			<hr/> 4

In fulfilment of the Local Authority's Scheme for the supply of milk, etc., (free or at part cost) to necessitous, expectant and nursing mothers and children, 12343½ pints of fresh milk, 8 tins of Nestles condensed milk and 4 bottles of 8 ounces each of cod liver oil emulsion were supplied free of cost and 566 pints of fresh milk were supplied at part cost. All cases are under continuous supervision and the children unless receiving treatment from a doctor are required to attend the welfare centres.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

187 children, including 87 which attended for the first time, made 1436 attendances at the Centre in Stubbins Lane. Of these 992 were by children under one year and 444 by children between one and five years. 47 sessions were held during the year which gives an average attendance of 30 per session. This number is 7 per session less than for the preceding year.

An epidemic of Whooping Cough prevalent during July, August and September, is in my opinion responsible for the reduction in the average attendance. At the Summerseat Centre 240 attendances were made at 21 sessions giving an average attendance of 11 per session, which is the same as for the preceding year. 52 % of the infants born to the district during 1936 attended the Welfare Centres.

THE CHILDREN'S ACT, 1908, (PART 1.)

During the year two names were added to the Register, making a total of 3 children nursed out for hire. Two of these were removed,—both children returning to their parents,—thus leaving one only on the Register at the end of the year.

A. L. SNELL,
HEALTH VISITOR.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

The main water supply to the district is by the "Irwell Valley Water Board," on which the Local Authority is represented by two members. The water is of good quality, soft and is plumbo-solvent, especially on hot water systems, and the danger of lead poisoning from the use of such water for culinary purposes is not negligible. The supply is usually abundant, but in the very prolonged dry seasons consumers are requested to use it economically. The number of houses supplied direct from the mains is 4797. A few private supplies piped and otherwise supply approximately 554 houses. Samples from 10 of these were submitted during the year to investigation and 3 were found to be unsatisfactory, one of these supplying 10 houses was cut off and the houses coupled to the main supply, the other two are receiving attention. These private supplies are in some cases exposed to casual contamination by surface drainage.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The drainage and sewerage is combined, *i.e.*, it takes both sewage and surface water besides a considerable volume of trade waste and there is reason to believe large quantities of ground water as well. The outflow sewage works are situated at Summerseat where the sewage after passing through settling tanks and sprinklers is discharged into the River Irwell. For a detailed account of collection and disposal of other forms of refuse see Mr. Barlow's report.

DRAIN TESTING. House drains are submitted to smoke and water tests, sewers are flushed.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The local concession for black smoke emission per half-hour is three minutes; no action for contravention was taken during 1935.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary conditions and water supply of schools continue satisfactory, with the exception of the school at Buckhurst which I am sorry to say still relies upon its faith in the past and hope for the future.

FOOD.

Mr. Barlow's report on food inspection gives in detail a list of food-stuffs which were condemned by him and surrendered for destruction. No illness from the consumption of unsound food was reported during the year and no cases for prosecution arose from exposure for sale of unsound food.

MILK.

Sixty seven dairy farms and twelve other registered cow-keepers having amongst them a total of approximately 990 cows are resident within the district. In addition there are apart from cow-keepers 14 dairymen or milk purveyors. Under the Milk (special designations) Order, 1923 one dealer's licence for the supply of certified milk *i.e.* milk from tubercular-tested Cattle, was issued.

ANALYSES. 62 samples from producers and dairymen were submitted for the tuberculous test and 5 were found to contained living tubercle bacilli. Ample evidence for the necessity of bringing milk to near the boiling point in order to kill these bacilli before giving the milk to children who amongst the population are more than adults, susceptible to bovine tuberculosis.

4 further samples were submitted for their bacterial count, the permissible amount for Grade A Milk being 200,000 bacteria per cubic centimetre and not more than one of *Bacillus Coli*—a special bacillus associated with dung—in 1 hundredth cubic centimetre. One of these samples proved to be unsatisfactory when compared with this standard.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The prevailing type of house for the working classes in Ramsbottom is of the two up and two down variety. These are mostly stone built, good and solid, of a weekly rental from 8/6 to 10/6. New houses are mostly built of bricks and have such sanitary conveniences as a bath-room and W.C. within the house. A considerable amount of old property exists in the district and an approximate estimate gives 500—600 Houses which require to be dealt with either by demolition on the one hand or reconstruction on the other. The approximate number of back-to-back houses is now 340. The extent of overcrowding has been found not to be serious, and 4 such cases have been relieved during slum clearance. Shortage of houses is also a matter of unreliability for although 176 applications for houses are on the Urban District Council's list most of these are for better and more modern dwellings with their additional conveniences.

The number of houses within the district not having an adequate internal water supply is approximately 144, and the number not having a separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation is approximately 1510.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year ;—

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	125
(i)	By the Local Authority....	56
(ii)	By other Local Authorities	—
(iii)	By other bodies or persons	69
(b)	With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i)	By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above	56
(ii)	By other bodies or persons (included under (a) (iii) above	—

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

(i) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	177
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	689
(ii) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	101
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose :	101
(iii)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... ..	57
(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	120

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices ;—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	23
--	----

3. Action under statutory powers during the year ;—

A.—Proceedings under Sections 17, 18, and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By Owners	nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

- | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices : | | | | | | |
| (a) | By owners | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners... | | | | | | nil |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

- | | | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Order were made | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (undertaking by owner accepted.)... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

D.—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930;—

- | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement of room having been rendered fit | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil |

4. Housing Act, 1935. Overcrowding.

- | | | | | | | |
|---------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| A.— (i) | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | ... | ... | ... | ... | 65 |
| (ii) | Number of families dwelling therein | ... | 66 | | | |
| (iii) | Number of persons dwelling therein | ... | 430 | | | |

B.—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year

- | | | | | | |
|---------|--|-----|-----|-----|----|
| C.— (i) | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| (ii) | Number of persons concerned in such cases | 97 | | | |

SLUM CLEARANCE.

Representations were made during the year of 4 areas comprising 38 houses for clearance purposes. Demolition of the houses in the original Clearance area is well in progress.

In conclusion, permit me to thank you and especially the Public Health Committee for your keen interest in public health affairs. My thanks are also tendered to my fellow officials for their generous assistance in the preparation of this report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

HUGH LAWRIE, M.B., C.M., D.H.P.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

To the Ramsbottom Urban District Council.

The Annual Report
OF THE
Sanitary Inspector,
1936.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1936.

The year has been an arduous one, especially in housing matters, and this aspect of public health, so prominent at the moment, is gradually occupying more and more of my time and attention.

I believe every citizen is entitled to, and should have, a decent house to live in, at the same time I believe it is equally important there should be adequate inspection of the food people eat and drink, (by this I include also the inspection of food preparing premises and the methods of production), and the air they breath. More danger to health may be caused by the drinking of Tuberculous Milk than by living in an insanitary house.

New legislation relating to overcrowding occupied a great deal of time during the first six months of the year and this was followed later in the year by the preparation of further clearance areas.

Progress in slum clearance has been somewhat retarded by the failure to obtain building sites to rehouse those persons to be displaced. I trust the day is not far distant however when these present difficulties will be overcome.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	...	177
Infectious Diseases	..	...	...	...	51
Shops and Market Stalls	...	...	...	...	388
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	421
Dairy Farms	...	...	...	...	27
Work in progress	...	...	...	...	32
Property under observation			...	...	689
Owners seen	...	..	...	...	83
Other premises	...	...	...	...	118
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	78
Schools disinfected	...	...	...	...	2
Drain inspections	...	...	...	...	199
Factories	...	...	...	...	21
Workshops	...	...	...	...	2
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	23
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	5
					<hr/>
					2316

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS FOUND.

Absence of adequate & readily accessible sanitary accommodation	2
Insanitary pail closets	27
Insanitary ashpits	4
Defective ashbins	32
Choked Tippler W C's... ..	243
Defective and choked drains	10
Defective and insanitary stone sinks	15
Drain inlets untrapped	2
Defective flush pipes to fresh water closets	3
No windows to water closet compartments	8
Defective closet pedestals	2
Defective lavatory seats	11
Defective eavesgutters	25
Defective downspouts	8
School with unwholesome water supply	1
Houses with unwholesome water supply	11
Houses overcrowded	82
Houses unfit for human habitation	57
Houses without back doors	8
Houses with no yard accommodation	8
Absence of properly ventilated food stores... ..	8
No handrails to stairs	8
Back bedrooms open to staircase... ..	8
Ceilings of sculleries requiring underboarding	7
Ground above floor level	8
Defective roofs	22
„ house walls	4
House walls requiring pointing	13
House walls damp	33
Defective plastering	25
Defective fireranges	2
„ ovens	14
„ sideboilers	11
„ chimney flues	2

Nuisances and Defects—continued.

Defective Scullery floors ...	...	...	...	...	7
„ Floorboards ...	...	...	...	...	20
Windows not made to open ...	...	...	...	...	21
Defective wood work to windows	...	...	...	...	11
„ sashcords to windows ...	...	...	...	...	24
„ stairs ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ protections to stairs ...	...	...	...	...	7
Ceilings sagging ...	...	...	...	...	4
Rooms requiring decorating ...	...	...	...	...	21
Accumulation of manure ...	...	...	...	...	1
Insanitary Cowsheds ...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective dairies ...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous defects ...	...	...	...	...	50
FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS :—					
Insanitary pail closets...	...	...	...	...	10
Insufficient sanitary accommodation ...	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary accommodation without intervening ventilated space					2
Doors of women's sanitary conveniences not provided with fastenings ...	...	...	...	...	1

 911

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Houses provided with adequate and readily accessible sanitary accommodation ...	...	...	...	...	4
Fresh water closets provided in lieu of pail closets	...			...	80
Fresh water closets provided in lieu of privy closets	...			...	18
Fresh water closets provided in lieu of waste water closets	...			...	4
Additional fresh water closets provided ...	...	...	...	...	24
Insanitary ashpits done away with	...	...	...	...	9
New ashbins provided ...	...	...	...	...	25
Pail closets abolished ...	...	.	...	...	23
Privy closets abolished	...	...	...	...	4
Ashpits abolished ...	...	...	...	...	5
Waste water closets abolished ...	...	...	...	...	4

Fresh water closets abolished	3
Choked tippler W.C's repaired	243
Defective and choked drains relaid	7
Choked drains cleared... ..	4
New tipplers provided to waste water closets	1
Drain inlets trapped	2
Defective flushpipe to fresh water closet repaired	1
Overcrowding abated	17
Unfit houses demolished	37
Back to back houses made through	4
Houses provided with wholesome water supply	9
Houses provided with adequate internal water supply	2
Dampness in house walls remedied	5
House walls pointed	18
New downspouts provided	6
Defective downspouts repaired	2
Defective roofs repaired	8
Defective eavesgutters repaired... ..	13
Houses provided with back doors	4
Houses provided with new opening windows	4
House windows provided with sashcords... ..	12
Defective woodwork to windows repaired	3
Defective floorboards repaired	9
Defective oven repaired	1
New glazed sink provided	1
New lavatory seats provided	2
Defective plastering repaired	8
Accumulation of manure removed	1
New cowshed provided	1
Cowshed provided with adequate light and ventilation	1
New floors provided to cowsheds	2
Miscellaneous defects remedied	19

HOUSING.

OVERCROWDING. The Housing Act of 1935 defined for the first time the number of persons allowed to occupied a dwelling house.

It imposed upon all local authorities the duty of carrying out a survey of the working class dwellings in their respective areas and submitting to the Minister of Health a report showing the numbers and sizes of the families occupying them.

The survey did not show any excessive overcrowding in the district, neither did it show such overcrowding to be confined to one Ward or locality, but rather to be spread fairly evenly over the whole district. Of the 4548 houses visited, 82 or 1.803 per cent were found to be overcrowded, these were made up of 22 two-roomed houses, 55 three-roomed houses, 2 four-roomed houses and 3 five-roomed houses.

Details of the result of the Survey in the different Wards are as follows ;—

Ward.	No. of houses visited.	No. of houses Overcrowded	Percentage of Overcrowding.
Central ...	1148	29	2.526
West ...	1169	14	1.197
North ...	932	14	1.502
East ...	783	10	1.277
South ...	396	9	2.272
Walmersley- cum-S'worth...	120	6	5.00
	<hr/> 4548	<hr/> 82	<hr/> 1.803

Seventeen of the cases of overcrowding were abated during the year.

SLUM CLEARANCE. As stated in the preface to this report the work of Slum Clearance has been considerably hampered during the year by the lack of available houses for rehousing purposes.

The work accomplished includes the representation of four clearance areas involving 38 houses ; the rehousing of the occupants of the Silver Street and Square Street, Peel Street, No. 1, Peel Street, No. 2 and Ramsbottom Lane Clearance Areas ; this involved in the case of the last mentioned area the carrying out of disinfection.

Ministry of Health inquires in respect of four clearance areas involving 60 houses were held during the year and the following table will show the progress of the Slum Clearance programme :—

Area No.	Description.	No. of houses	No. of persons	Year Re-presented	Inquiry held	Year re-housed
1	Carr Street	43	140	1934	1934	1935
2	Silver St. & Square St.	13	36	1934	1935	1936
3	Peel Street No. 1	5	10	1935	1935	1936
4	Peel Street No. 2	8	17	1935	1935	1936
5	Ramsbottom Lane	41	140	1935	1936	1936
6	Whalley Road	6	19	1935	1936	—
7	Carr Fold	10	23	1935	1936	—
8	Carex Street	3	11	1935	1936	—
9	Bolton Road West	5	18	1936	—	—
10	Higher Summerseat	5	15	1936	—	—
11	Kay St., Summerseat	6	15	1936	—	—
12	Willow St., & Irwell St., Summerseat	22	56	1936	—	—
		<hr/> 167	<hr/> 500			

INDIVIDUALLY UNFIT HOUSES. Four back-to-back houses were made through and 23 individually unfit houses were rendered fit during the year. One house was also closed on an undertaking being given by the owner.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

I. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

Premises	No. of Inspections	No. of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories ... (Including Factory Laundries)	44	3	—
Workshops ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	7	—	—
Workplaces ... (Other than Outworkers' Premises)	421	—	—
Total ...	472	3	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOP & WORKPLACES

Particulars.	---Number of Defects.--- referred to H M. Ins- pector			Number of offences in respect of which pros- ecutions were instituted.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—	Found	Remedied		
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation :-				
{ insufficient	... 1	—	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective	... 5	1	—	—
{ not separate for sexes	... —	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts :				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	... —	—	—	—
Total...	6	1		

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Frequent visits are paid to slaughter-houses, shops, market stalls and food preparing premises in an endeavour to secure a wholesome food supply.

An effort is made, so far as this is possible, to examine the carcasses of all animals after slaughter.

NUMBER OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, ETC.

Slaughter-houses (registered)	...	...	3
Slaughter-houses (licenced)	...	...	8
Beef butchers	...	...	22
Pork butchers	...	...	4
Butchers Stalls on Market...	...	...	1
Meat hawkers	...	...	3
Bakehouses	...	...	28

There is no evidence of any illnesses having been caused by the consumption of unwholesome food during the year and no prosecutions for the exposure for sale of diseased or unwholesome food were necessary.

The total weight of food condemned was 6,655 lbs. This included 6 whole carcasses of beef, 6 pigs, 2 sheep and 1 calf; in addition 2 turkeys, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. of damsons were also found to be unsound and condemned.

Particulars of the number of carcasses inspected, the amount of food found to be unfit, together with the reasons therefor, will be found in the following tables.

NUMBER OF CARCASSES EXAMINED AFTER SLAUGHTER.

	Bulls	Bullocks	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Pigs	Total
January	2	31	12	5	3	168	221
February	5	56	10	3	0	168	242
March	0	45	12	16	1	137	211
April	5	43	10	12	0	272	342
May	2	52	6	6	0	135	201
June	4	21	6	1	0	138	170
July	4	29	16	3	0	311	363
August	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
September	1	15	11	5	0	207	239
October	0	23	20	6	1	390	440
November	1	25	12	11	2	301	352
December	3	47	17	21	3	292	383
	27	387	132	89	10	2519	3164

No record kept of the number of sheep and lambs examined.

CARCASES AND ORGANS FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD.

— ALL DISEASES. —

	Whole Carcases and Organs.	Parts of Car- cases.	Heads	Lungs	Livers	Mesen- teries	Plucks
Bovines	6	2	17	49	6 + 24 lbs.	2	
Pigs	6		146	5	2		98
Sheeps	2						
Calves	1						

TUBERCULOUS.

Bovines	4		17	48		2	
Pigs	2		146	1			83

OTHER CAUSES.

BOVINES.

Injury	2	2					
Cirrhosis					2 + 6 lbs.		
Cavernous					3		
Angioma							
Distomatosis					1 + 18 lbs.		
Pneumonia				1			

PIGS.

Injury	2						
Pyæmia	1						
Dropsy	1						
Pluerisy							15
Cirrhosis					2		
Pneumonia				4			

SHEEP.

Dropsy	2						
--------	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

CALVES.

Immaturity	1						
------------	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

WEIGHTS OF CARCASSES AND ORGANS FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD.

TOTAL WEIGHT IN POUNDS. ALL DISEASES.

	Whole Carcases and Organs	Parts of Car- cases	Heads	Lungs	Livers	Mesen- teries	Plucks	Total.
Bovines	2610	140	510	392	96	12	0	3760
Pigs	491	0	1752	20	8	0	484	2755
Sheep	110	0	0	0	0	0	0	110
Calves	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
Total	3241	140	2262	412	104	12	484	6655

TUBERCULOUS.

Bovines	1540	0	510	384	0	12	0	2446
Pigs	321	0	1752	4	0	0	424	2501
Total	1861	0	2262	388	0	12	424	4947

OTHER CAUSES,

Bovines	1070	140	0	8	96	0	0	1314
Pigs	170	0	0	16	8	0	60	254
Sheep	110	0	0	0	0	0	0	110
Calves	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
Total	1380	140	0	24	104	0	60	1708

OTHER FOODS.

Two Turkeys and $7\frac{1}{2}$ -cwts. of Damsons were also found to be unfit for human food and condemned.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The County Police administer the provision of the above Act in this district.

I am indebted to Superintendent J. Watkinson for the following particulars of the Samples purchased in Ramsbottom during 1936 :—

Milk	...	...	...	27
Damson Jam	...	...	...	1
Sausage	...	...	...	1
Cream of Tartar	...	...	...	1
Flowers of Sulphur	...	...	...	1
Seidlitz Powders	...	...	...	1
Coffee	...	...	...	1
Rice	...	...	...	1
Canned Pears	...	...	...	1
Salmon and Cucumber Paste				1
Mixed Pickles	...	...	...	1
Boiled Sweets	...	...	...	1
Cocoa	...	...	...	1
Custard Powder	...	..	...	1
Gravy Browning	...	...	...	1
Strawberry Jam	...	...	...	1
Pepper	...	...	...	1
Pickles	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> 44

In one case a farmer was proceeded against for selling milk deficient in fat. The case was dismissed on payment of £5 5 0 cost. Upon analysis all the remaining samples were found to be genuine.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

A pure and wholesome milk supply, is, I think a necessity to the well being of the community. Milk is the greatest of all foods, it is in fact the most complete food obtainable, but, and here lies the danger, it may quite unsuspectingly be the cause of great evil; It is estimated that 5% of the cattle in this country are affected

with tuberculosis and for this reason, I should like to be able to devote more time to this subject than has been possible for me during the past year.

The number of dairy farms, etc., in the district is :—

Dairy Farms	...	...	67
Dairymen or Milk Purveyors	...	...	14
Cowkeepers	...	...	79
Accredited Producers	...	...	2
Dealers licenced for "certified milk"			1

Twenty seven inspections were made during the year; five notices were served in connection with alterations to farm premises, three of which have been complied with.

EXAMINATION OF MILK SUPPLIES.

Samples of all milk supplied to school children and from the two accredited farms in the district are obtained quarterly and submitted for examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli; samples are also obtained from farmers in the course of delivery from time to time.

The number of samples obtained and submitted for examination during the year was 62. Five of these were found to contain tubercle bacilli, as a result visits were made to the farms, further samples obtained, the affected animals isolated, and eventually slaughtered.

Four samples of milk obtained during the course of delivery were also submitted for bacterial count, three of which were satisfactory. In the case of the unsatisfactory one, visits to the farm were made and advice given.

WATER SUPPLY.

The provision of a public water supply to Holcombe Village has been taken advantage of by the villagers, the majority of whom have now installed a supply from the Water Board's mains. The provision of this supply has also assisted considerably in the abolition of privy middens in the village.

Ten samples of private water supplies were obtained during the year, 3 of which were found to be unsatisfactory. In one case—a supply to 9 houses—the supply has been discontinued and a supply from the Water Board's mains installed in each of the houses. The other two cases are receiving attention.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are seven offensive trades in the district, namely :— 2 tripe boilers, 1 tallow refinery, 1 size works, 2 soap works and 1 gut scraper. No contraventions of the bye-laws were found during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is one common lodging house in the district situated in Paradise Street. The house has accommodation for 96 lodgers, the number of beds now occupied however rarely exceeds 20.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The past year has I think seen the abolition of a record number of in sanitary pails and privies. This reform is long overdue, and although there are a number which cannot owing to their situation be converted, there are still a large number where such obstacles do not exist.

The Council's scheme of financial assistance towards the cost has been the primary means of securing such a large number of conversions during the year. I would like to draw the attention of all owners concerned to this scheme, details of which may be had on application, and urge them to participate.

Conversions carried out during the year :

Privy closets converted to fresh water closets	—	18
Pail closets converted to fresh water closets	—	80
Waste water closets converted to fresh water closets		4

In addition to the above conversions the following have been abolished :—

Privy closets	—	4
Pail closets	—	23
Waste water closets—		4

So far as can be reasonably ascertained, the sanitary accommodation of the district at the end of the year consisted of—

Fresh water closets	—	—	3106
Waste water closets	—	—	1298
Pail closets	—	—	339
Privy middens—	—	—	43
Closets attached to middens	—		85
Ashbins	—	—	3950
Dry ashpits	—	—	53

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The collection of refuse is now almost entirely carried out by motor vehicles. In the Deeply Vale area where owing to its isolated situation the scavenging is let out by contract to a local farmer and in a small portion of the Turn area which is impossible of access for motor vehicles, horses are still used.

Refuse disposal is by controlled tipping on the tips at Peel Brow and Miller Street.

The total cost of refuse collection and disposal during the financial year ended 31st March, 1937, was £2405 7s. 7d. This amount is made up as follows:— Collection £1670 16s. 10d., Disposal £514 8s. 3d. Charges on Destructor (disused) £93 5s. 8d. Ewood Bridge tip-special repairs £126 16s. 10d.

For the purposes of comparison a table is here inserted showing the number of houses on the rate books, the nett expenditure, its rate equivalent and the cost per house for this service during the years 1932 to 1937.

Year ended 31st March	No. of Houses on Rate Books	Net Expenditure £	Rate Equivalent d.	Cost per House. s. d.	
1932	4369	2756	10 2	12	7.39
1933	4402	2625	9.6	11	11.08
1934	4470	2546	9.2	11	4.42
1935	4663	2528	8.7	10	10.11
1936	4781	2320	8.0	9	8.46
*1937	4901	2405	8.1	9	9.40

* Includes a special expenditure of £126 in respect of Ewood Bridge tip.

The following tables give full details of collection and disposal :

SUMMARY :

MOTOR VEHICLES.

COLLECTION.

Month	Loads	Barrels	Ashbins	Middens Privy	Ashpits	Pail Closets	Cess- pools
January	... 173	24	11641	3	32	1027	—
February	... 231	32	14649	8	38	1208	2
March	... 246	32	15318	11	45	1325	—
April	... 285	40	18105	23	39	1595	2
May	... 239	36	15334	17	38	1262	3
June	... 134	32	10386	5	22	1279	--
July	... 238	40	16101	14	57	1572	2
August	.. 164	21	11027	13	14	938	—
September	... 224	28	15444	28	40	1273	—
October	... 262	35	19201	15	52	1633	2
November	... 206	30	15424	7	41	1238	5
December	... 260	26	19404	18	38	1471	4
	<u>2662</u>	<u>376</u>	<u>182034</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>456</u>	<u>15821</u>	<u>20</u>

DISPOSAL.

Month	Peel Brow Tip	Miller St. Tip	Excreta Shoots	Total Loads	Total Barrels
January	... 144	29	24	173	24
February	... 187	44	32	231	32
March	... 201	45	32	246	32
April	.. 231	54	40	285	40
May	... 193	46	36	239	36
June	... 107	27	32	134	32
July	... 198	40	40	238	40
August	.. 136	28	21	164	21
September	... 184	40	28	224	28
October	... 210	52	35	262	35
November	.. 167	40	29	206	30
December	... 214	46	26	260	26
Total	... <u>2172</u>	<u>491</u>	<u>375</u>	<u>2662</u>	<u>376</u>

HIRED MOTOR VEHICLES.

COLLECTION.

Month	Loads	Barrels	Ashbins	Privy Middens	Ashpits	Pail Closets	Cess- pools
January	... 13		650				
February	... 23		1046	9	1		
April	... 18		1228		3		
June	... 82		4541	20	22		
July	... 41		2898	2	7	3	
August	... 17		760		5	2	
	<hr/> 194		<hr/> 11123	<hr/> 31	<hr/> 38	<hr/> 5	

DISPOSAL.

Month	Peel Tip	Brow Tip	Miller St. Tip	Other Tips	Excreta Shoots	Total Loads	Total Barrels
January	... 13					13	
February	... 23					23	
April	... 18					18	
June	... 72		10			82	
July	... 37		4			41	
August	... 10		7			17	
	<hr/> 173		<hr/> 21			<hr/> 194	

HIRED HORSE VEHICLES.

COLLECTIONS.

Month	Loads	Barrels	Ashbins	Privy Middens	Ashpits	Pail Closets	Cess- pools
January	... 3			7	6	3	
February	... 4			8	7	3	
March	... 4			8	7	4	
April	... 6	11		7	9	4	9
May	... 4			8	7	4	
June	... 3			7	6	5	
July	... 8						5
August	... 7			15	12	8	

Month	Loads	Barrels	Ashbins	Privy Middens	Ashpits	Pail Closets	Cess- pools
September	...	4		8	7	4	
October	...	3		7	6	4	
November	...	4		8	7	4	
December	...	9	7	7	11	4	5
	—	—		—	—	—	—
Total	51	26		90	85	47	19

DISPOSAL.

Month	Peel Brow Tip	Miller St., Tip	Other Tips	Excreta Shoos	Total Loads	Total Barrels
January	...		3		3	
February	...		4		4	
March	...		4		4	
April	...		17		6	11
May	...		4		4	
June	...		3		3	
July	...		8			8
August	...		7		7	
September	...		4		4	
October	...		3		3	
November	...		4		4	
December	...	2	14		9	7
	—	—	—		—	—
	2		75		51	26

In conclusion, I desire to thank you Mr. Chairman and and Gentlemen, for the support and consideration extended to me in the execution of my duties. I also offer my thanks to my fellow officials for their valuable assistance and co-operation.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

HERBERT BARLOW,
SANITARY INSPECTOR.









